



# Catholic Archdiocese of Adelaide

## *Archbishop of Adelaide*

31<sup>st</sup> March, 2021  
20210331:001:L:POR

Dear sisters and brothers,

**RE: Update from South Australian Police (SAPOL): increase of capacity for churches**

Grace and peace, I hope that this note finds you well.

I wish to communicate the following information to you regarding changes announced which have taken effect from today, Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> March at 12:01am.

The full details for the direction can be found at: [Public activities | SA.GOV.AU: COVID-19 \(covid-19.sa.gov.au\)](https://www.sa.gov.au/covid-19).

I draw your attention to the following points:

1. Where worshippers are in fixed seating the requirement is that worshippers wear masks when more than 75% of the seats are occupied.
2. Where worshippers are not in fixed seating the requirements is that worshippers wear masks if the total number of persons present at the place exceeds 3 person per 4 square metres.
3. A mask is not required to be worn in the circumstances where the ability to see the mouth is essential for communication i.e. those celebrating mass and choirs.
4. An attendee under the age of 12 is not required to wear a mask neither is a person with a relevant medical condition (evidence must be produced on request).

Please see the attached diagram to assist with your understanding.

Further to this, Parishes may decide to recommence congregational singing provided masks are worn.

You will receive an update of your COVID Safe Plan emailed to you from SA Health.

The advice from my circular 10<sup>th</sup> March 2021 regarding Holy Week still remains in place with the exception of congregational singing as mentioned above.

### **Wedding ceremonies and funeral services**

If the ceremony or service is held in a place of worship, the place can operate at normal occupancy where attendees are seated (but if that exceeds 75% attendees must wear a mask). Where attendees are not in fixed seating, the total number of persons present must not exceed 3 persons per 4 square metres.

## **Ongoing Support, Catholic Health Safety and Welfare**

If you would like further assistance please contact Deb Nation and her team at Catholic Health Safety and Welfare on 08 8215 6850.

In Domino,

+ Pat O'Regan

+Patrick O'Regan  
**Archbishop of Adelaide**

Attach